



Recommended Landscape Plants for Williamson County

Table 1. Recommended Trees

LARGE TREES (35 ft +)
MEDIUM TREES (20-35 ft)
SMALL TREES/LARGE SHRUBS (<20 ft)

Table 2. Recommended Shrubs

DWARF SHRUBS (1-3 ft)
SMALL SHRUBS (3-5 ft)
MEDIUM SHRUBS (6-9 ft)
LARGE SHRUBS (See SMALL TREES)

Table 3. Recommended Perennials

FLOWERING PERENNIALS
ORNAMENTAL GRASSES

Table 4. Recommended Vines & Groundcover

VINES
GROUNDCOVER

Many of these plants can be viewed growing at the Landscape Center at 3151 SE Inner Loop, Georgetown, Texas. A map of the landscape design can be obtained from the website, for a self-guided tour. All plant material is labeled at least once in the landscape.



Table 1. Recommended Trees

COMMON NAME	SCIENTIFIC NAME	EXPOSURE**	NOTES
LARGE TREES (35 ft +)			
Bald Cypress*	<i>Taxodium distichum</i>	E	Copper leaves in fall
Montezuma Cypress*	<i>Taxodium mucronatum</i>	E	Bronze leaves in fall; more adapted to dry conditions than bald cypress; deer resistant
Blackjack Oak*	<i>Quercus marilandica</i>	E	Needs well drained soil; avoid pruning from Feb 1 to June 1 to help prevent oak wilt
Bur Oak*	<i>Quercus macrocarpa</i>	E	The largest and grandest of the oaks; very adaptable; need lots of space; moderate growth rate; susceptible to powdery mildew.
Cedar Elm*	<i>Ulmus crassifolia</i>	E	Upright form; adapted to rocky soils; can withstand heavy, poorly drained clay soils and soils that are moderately compacted; susceptible to powdery mildew
Chinese Pistache	<i>Pistacia chinensis</i>	S	Burgundy red fall foliage; moderate growth rate; long-lived; can be invasive; tall and lanky when young but fills out.
Chinquapin Oak*	<i>Quercus muhlenbergii</i>	E	Good for deeper soils; moderate growth rate; interesting leaf pattern
Lacebark Elm	<i>Ulmus parvifolia</i>	S	Nearly evergreen; open spreading form; attractive exfoliating bark; drought tolerant
Live Oak*	<i>Quercus virginiana</i>	E	Oak wilt susceptible; need lots of space; Escarpment Live Oak, <i>Quercus fusiformis</i> , better for West side of IH35 in shallow soil; avoid pruning from Feb 1 to June 1 to help prevent oak wilt
Monterey Oak	<i>Quercus polymorpha</i>	E	Also called Mexican White Oak; nearly evergreen; not susceptible to Oak Wilt; medium sized leaves; new foliage can be pinkish in color.
Pecan*	<i>Carya illinoensis</i>	S	Good for deep soils only; susceptible to disease and insects on nuts and some foliage; tall tree; State tree of Texas
Shumard Oak*	<i>Quercus shumardii</i>	S	Good for deeper soils; red fall foliage; avoid pruning from Feb 1 to June 1 to help prevent oak wilt
Texas Red Oak*	<i>Quercus texana</i>	E	Good for shallow soils; bright red/orange fall color; Oak wilt problems so avoid pruning from Feb 1 to June 1 to help prevent oak wilt
Texas Ash*	<i>Fraxinus texensis</i>	E	Fast growing; foliage turns bronze/yellow/mauve muted tones in fall.
MEDIUM TREES (20-35 ft)			
Arizona Cypress	<i>Cupressus arizonica</i>	S	Evergreen for specimen and windbreak plantings; blue-silver foliage; attractive peeling bark; some disease problems
Honey Mesquite*	<i>Prosopis glandulosa</i>	S	Creamy white flowers from March to September; bright green foliage and weeping shape; thorns; deer resistant
Lacey Oak*	<i>Quercus glaucooides</i>	E	Bluish green foliage; ideal for small urban yards; slow growth; tolerates shallow, limestone soil
Texas Madrone*	<i>Arbutus xalapensis</i>	S	Exfoliating bark that is multicolored; evergreen leaves; white flowers and red berries

SMALL TREES/LARGE SHRUBS (<20 ft)			
American Smoke Tree*	<i>Cotinus obovatus</i>	E	Pink to purple cloud-like floral display; prefers well drained, rocky limestone soils; does best with break from hot afternoon sun; deer resistant
Anacacho Orchid Tree*	<i>Bauhinia congesta</i>	E	White to pale pink blooms in March-May; prefers well drained soil; small light green leaves resemble cloven hooves.
Bird of Paradise	<i>Caesalpinia gilliesii</i>	S	Showy yellow flowers with red stamens; withstands freezes; seeds are toxic; deer resistant
Carolina Buckthorn*	<i>Rhamnus caroliniana</i>	E	Yellow fall foliage; understory tree with glossy leaves; red berries for wildlife; deer resistant
Cherry Laurel*	<i>Prunus caroliniana</i>	E	Tree-like evergreen shrub; good screening plant; requires deep soil and good drainage or is susceptible to chlorosis.
Crape Myrtle	<i>Lagerstroemia indica</i>	S	Shrubby to tree-like, summer blooming, many flower colors, powdery mildew resistant varieties available; note mature size when selecting variety
Desert Willow*	<i>Chilopsis linearis</i>	E	Trumpet shaped white, pink or burgundy blooms in Spring and Fall; need well drained site; airy foliage casts a light shade for underplantings; deer resistant
Eve's Necklace*	<i>Sophora affinis</i>	E	Pink drooping clusters on blooms in spring; will tolerate poorly drained, clay soils; black seed pods resemble string of beads.
Flameleaf Sumac*	<i>Rhus lanceolata</i>	E	Orange/red fall foliage; thicket forming; good for wildscapes; deer resistant
Goldenball Leadtree*	<i>Leucaena retusa</i>	E	Fragrant yellow globe blooms from April to October; fairly fast growing; airy foliage casts light shade for underplantings.
Mexican Buckeye*	<i>Ugnadia speciosa</i>	E	Pink blooms in early spring; multi-trunked; shrubby; does well as understory plant; deer resistant
Mexican Plum*	<i>Prunus mexicana</i>	E	White fragrant blooms in early spring; edible fruit; needs good drainage with fair amount of soil; short-lived.
Pomegranate	<i>Punica granatum</i>	E	Red to orange flowers; bears edible fruit; yellow fall color
Possumhaw Holly*	<i>Ilex decidua</i>	S	Deciduous holly, red to orange berries persist through early winter; deer resistant
Red Buckeye*	<i>Aesculus pavia</i>	E	Bright red flowers in Spring; loses leaves in summer; deer resistant
Texas Red Bud*	<i>Cercis canadensis</i>	E	Pinkish purple blooms in early spring; can be short lived; has shiny leaves; deer resistant
Retama, Jerusalem Thorn*	<i>Parkinsonia aculeata</i>	E	Yellow blooms spring to fall; tolerates dry soils; root suckers; thorns; fast growing; short lived
Rusty Blackhaw Viburnum*	<i>Viburnum rufidulum</i>	E	White flowers in late spring; Good understory tree; for deeper well-drained soils; slow growing; yellow, orange and red fall color; deer resistant
Texas Mt. Laurel*	<i>Sophora secundiflora</i>	E	Tree-like evergreen shrub, purple spring flowers
Texas Palmetto*	<i>Sabal texana</i>	S	Tall, native Texas palm
Texas Persimmon*	<i>Diospyros texana</i>	S	Tree-like shrub, light gray trunks, fruit edible by animals; deer resistant
Texas Pistachio*	<i>Pistacia texana</i>	E	White flowers in spring; red berries on female plants only
Vitex, Chaste Tree	<i>Vitex agnus-castus</i>	S	Tree-like shrub, flowers blue or white, summer blooming
Wax Myrtle*	<i>Myrica cerifera</i>	E	Tree-like shrub, olive-green, aromatic foliage; evergreen
Yaupon Holly*	<i>Ilex vomitoria</i>	E	Upright evergreen, spineless holly, red to orange berries; deer resistant
*Texas native			
** S=sun, Sh=shade, E=either			
General Maintenance: Most trees only need to be pruned for shape or to raise canopy; eliminate crossing branches; remove broken limbs as soon as possible to prevent decay; shape a young tree in the first three years after planting to produce a mature specimen; Spring bloomers should be pruned immediately after flowering all others should be pruned in dormant season.			

Table 2. Recommended Shrubs

COMMON NAME	SCIENTIFIC NAME	EXPOSURE**	NOTES	FLOWERING SEASON	HEIGHT
DWARF SHRUBS (1 to 3 ft)					
Artemisia	<i>Artemisia 'Powis Castle'</i>	E	Gray lacy foliage; lower growing and spreading; deer resistant		
Barbados Cherry*	<i>Malpighia blabra</i>	E	White to pale pink flowers in March followed by red berries for winter		
Basket Grass*	<i>Nolina texana</i>	E	Cream colored plume flower; Remove old blooms stalks at base; grass-like mounding form; deer resistant		
Coralberry*	<i>Symphoricarpos orbiculatus</i>	Sh	Magenta berries in late fall and winter; needs moist soil; spreads by runners		
Dwarf Chinese Holly	<i>Ilex cornuta rotunda</i>	E	Glossy evergreen foliage; deer resistant		
Dwarf Yaupon Holly*	<i>Ilex vomitoria nana</i>	E	Glossy evergreen foliage		
Nandina: Harbour Dwarf, Gulf Stream	<i>Nandina sp.</i>	E	Reddish evergreen foliage; deer resistant		
Red Yucca*	<i>Hesperaloe parvifolia</i>	S	Red flowers on tall spikes		
SMALL SHRUBS (3 to 5 feet tall)					
Agave (Century Plant)	<i>Agave sp.</i>	S	Evergreen; sharp spines so choose location carefully; many types & sizes; dies after blooming but will generate new plants, keep pups pruned off for sculptured look (single specimen); deer resistant		
American Beautyberry	<i>Callicarpa americana</i>	Sh	Purple berries in fall and winter; prefers dependable moisture and deeper soil		
Barberry	<i>Berberis thunbergii 'Atropurpurea'</i>	S	Burgundy evergreen foliage; Best color in full sun; thorns; needs good drainage		
Bridal Wreath	<i>Spirea cantoniensis (S. reevesiana)</i>	E	Sprawling, fern-like appearance, white spring blooms		
Bush Germander	<i>Teucrium fruticans</i>	E	Lavendar blue flowers; attractive gray-green foliage; deer resistant		
Butterfly Bush	<i>Buddleja davidii</i>	E	Long bloom spikes; many colors; attracts butterflies		
Rose	<i>Rosa sp.</i>	S	long blooming, pest resistant; excellent varieties: 'Belinda's Dream', 'Knock Out', 'Livin' Easy', 'Martha Gonzales', 'Mutabilis', 'Old Bush'		
Cotoneaster	<i>Cotoneaster sp</i>	E	Silver-gray to dark green foliage; susceptible to fire blight and spider mites; deer resistant		
Dwarf Burford Holly	<i>Ilex cornuta rotunda burfordii</i>	E	Glossy evergreen foliage; susceptible to scale insects; deer resistant		
Dwarf Palmetto*	<i>Sabal minor</i>	E	Trunkless, bushy palm		
Dwarf Wax Myrtle*	<i>Myrica pusilla</i>	E	Olive-green, aromatic foliage		
Esperanza*	<i>Tecoma stans</i>	S	Showy yellow or tangerine blooms; deer resistant		
Flame Acanthus	<i>Anisacanthus quadrifidus var. wrightii</i>	E	Orange flowers attract hummingbirds & butterflies; reseeds easily; deer resistant		
Flowering Quince	<i>Chaenomeles japonica</i>	S	Deciduous rounded shrub, early spring blooming (red, pink, white or orange)		
Glossy Abelia	<i>Abelia grandiflora</i>	E	Bronze evergreen foliage and white flowers		
Grayleaf Cotoneaster	<i>Cotoneaster glaucophylla</i>	E	Sprawling evergreen shrub, dusty gray foliage		
Indian Hawthorne	<i>Raphiolepis indica</i>	E	Spring flowering, blue berries in fall, evergreen foliage		

Japanese Boxwood	<i>Buxux japonica</i>	E	Evergreen foliage
Juniper	<i>Juniperus sp.</i>	S	Tough, evergreen shrubs; many varieties available
Nandina: compact	<i>Nandina domestica compacta</i>	E	Reddish evergreen foliage and red fall berries
Primrose Jasmine	<i>Jasminum mesnyi</i>	E	Yellow flowers; very large, good for hanging over walls or cliffs; good for erosion control; very few blooms after spring; can be hedged; deer resistant

MEDIUM SHRUBS (6 to 9 feet tall)

Agarita*	<i>Mahonia trifoliata</i>	S	Holly-like evergreen foliage, yellow spring flowers, red edible berries; deer resistant
Burford Holly	<i>Ilex cornuta burfordii</i>	E	Glossy evergreen foliage; susceptible to scale insects
Cast Iron Plant	<i>Aspidistra elatior</i>	Sh	Foliage plant, slow growing, drought & deer tolerant
Ceniza/Texas Sage*	<i>Leucophyllum sp.</i>	S	Dusty gray evergreen foliage, blooms throughout summer; several new varieties including Silverado (grey foliage) and Greed-cloud (green foliage)
Chinese Horned Holly	<i>Ilex cornuta</i>	E	Glossy evergreen foliage
Eleagnus	<i>Eleagnus fruitandi</i>	S	Evergreen, with gray-green foliage
Evergreen Sumac*	<i>Rhus virens</i>	E	Glossy leaves turn burgundy in cool season; fuzzy orange/red berries in late summer; deer resistant
Flowering Senna	<i>Cassia corymbosa</i>	S	Summer to fall yellow flowers; dark green leaves; susceptible to extremely cold weather; deer resistant
Glossy Abelia	<i>Abelia grandiflora</i>	E	Bronze, evergreen foliage, white or pink flowers
Indian Hawthorne	<i>Raphiolepis indica</i>	E	Spring flowering, blue berries in fall, evergreen foliage
Italian Jasmine	<i>Jasminum humile</i>	S	Sprawling, evergreen shrub, yellow summer flowers
Juniper	<i>Juniperus sp.</i>	S	Tough, evergreen shrubs; many varieties available
Nandina	<i>Nandina domestica</i>	E	Reddish, evergreen foliage, red fall berries
Oleander	<i>Nerium oleander</i>	S	Evergreen foliage, summer blooming, many colors available; deer resistant; susceptible to bacteria leaf scorch
Pittosporum	<i>Pittosporum tobira</i>	E	Large evergreen shrub, green and variegated forms
Pomegranate	<i>Punica granatum</i>	S	Upright large shrub, orange blooms, edible fruit; dwarf variety: Chico
Pride of Barbados	<i>Caesalpinia pulcherrima</i>	S	Orange and red flowers in summer, airy foliage 5-6 ft. freezes to ground
Winter Honeysuckle	<i>Lonicera fragranissima</i>	E	Fragrant, clusters of white flowers in winter

***Texas native**

**** S=sun, Sh=shade, E=either**

General Maintenance: Most shrubs only need to be pruned for natural look or shape. Eliminate crossing branches; remove broken limbs as soon as possible to prevent decay. Spring bloomers should be pruned immediately after flowering. Summer flowering and evergreens should be pruned in dormant season before spring flush of growth.

Table 3. Recommended Perennials

COMMON NAME	SCIENTIFIC NAME	EXPOSURE**	FLOWER COLOR	FLOWER SEASON	HEIGHT
FLOWERING PERENNIALS					
Autumn Sage*	<i>Salvia greggii</i>	S	White, red, pink, salmon, purple	Spring, summer, fall	2-3 ft
Bearded Iris	<i>Iris xiphioides</i>	E	Many	Spring	1-3 ft
Black Dalea*	<i>Dalea frutescens</i>	S	Purple	Fall	1-3 ft
Blackfoot Daisy*	<i>Melampodium leucanthum</i>	S	White	Spring, Summer	1-2 ft
Calylophus*	<i>Calylophus berlandieri</i>	E	Yellow	Spring, Summer	1-2 ft
Cannas	<i>Canna X generalis</i>	E	Yellow, red, pink, salmon	Summer	2-4 ft
Cigar Plant	<i>Cuphea micropetala</i>	E	Red/yellow	Summer, Fall	3-4 ft
Copper Canyon Daisy	<i>Tagetes lemmonii</i>	S	Yellow	Fall	3-4 ft
Coreopsis*	<i>Coreopsis grandiflora</i>	S	Yellow, orange	Late spring, summer	1 ft
Daylily	<i>Hemerocalis sp.</i>	S	Many	Spring, summer	1-3 ft
Firebush	<i>Hamelia patens</i>	S	Red-orange	Summer, Fall	3-5 ft
Four Nerve Daisy, Hymenoxys*	<i>Tetranneuris scaposa</i>	E	Yellow	Spring, Summer, Fall	1 ft
Gaura*	<i>Gaura lindheimeri</i>	E	Pink or white	Spring, Summer	2-3 ft
Goldstrum Rudbekia	<i>Rudbeckia X Goldstrum</i>	S	Yellow	Summer	2 ft
Hinckley's Columbine*	<i>Aquilegia hinckleya</i>	Sh	Yellow	Spring	18 in
Indian Blanket*	<i>Gaillardia sp.</i>	S	Red-yellow blend	Spring, summer, fall	18 in
Lantana*	<i>Lantana sp.</i>	S	Many	Spring, summer, fall	1-4 ft
Mealy Blue Sage*	<i>Salvia farinacea</i>	S	Blue, white, purple	Spring, summer, fall	3 ft
Mexican Oregano	<i>Poliomenta longiflora</i>	S	Pink	Summer	1-2 ft
Mexican Bush Sage	<i>Salvia leucantha</i>	S	Blue	Summer, fall	3-4 ft
Mistflower*	<i>Eupatorium greggii</i>	E	Lavender	Fall	2-3 ft
Pavonia*	<i>Pavonia lasiopetala</i>	E	Lavender pink	Spring, summer, fall	3-4 ft
Plumbago	<i>Plumbago auriculata</i>	E	Blue, white	Summer, fall	3 ft
Perennial Verbena*	<i>Verbena sp.</i>	S	Many	Spring, summer, fall	6 in-1 ft
Pink Scullcap	<i>Scutellaria suffrutescens</i>	E	Pink	Summer	1 ft
Purple Coneflower*	<i>Echinacea augustifolia</i>	E	Purple	Spring, summer, fall	18 in
Rosemary	<i>Rosmarinum officinalis</i>	E	Blue	Summer, fall	1-4 ft
Society Garlic	<i>Tulbaghia violacea</i>	E	Lavender	Spring, summer, fall	18 in
Turk's Cap*	<i>Malvaviscus arboreus</i>	E	Red	Summer, fall	2-5 ft
ORNAMENTAL GRASSES					
Big Bluestem*	<i>Andropogon gerardii</i>	S		Summer, fall	3-4 ft
Fountain Grass	<i>Pennisetum ruppelii</i>	S		Summer	3 ft
Muhly Grass*	<i>Muhlenbergia lindheimeri</i>	S		Fall	3-5 ft
Mexican Feathergrass	<i>Stipa tenuissima</i>	S		Spring	2 ft
Gulf Muhly*	<i>Muhlenbergia capillaris</i>	S		Fall	2 ½ -3 ft
Pine Muhly	<i>Muhlenbergia</i>	S		Fall	1-2 ft
Seep Muhly	<i>Muhlenbergia reverchonii</i>	S		Fall	1-2 ft
Pampas Grass	<i>Cortaderia seloana</i>	S		Summer, fall	7 ft

***Texas native**

**** S=sun, Sh=shade, E=either**

General Maintenance: Most perennials should be cut back a few inches from the ground after the frost kills back the top. Mulching helps protect the roots from extreme cold. A pruning of the top half of the plant midway through the growing season (end of May) helps keep the plants more compact and bushy. Some perennials, like the salvias, benefit from occasional shearing of the old blooms.

Ornamental grasses should be pruned in late February to early spring to a few inches from the ground. Leaving the foliage on during the winter allows for texture in the landscape as well as helps protect the crown of the plant from freezes. New growth will flush from the clump in the spring.

Table 4. Recommended Vines & Groundcovers

COMMON NAME	SCIENTIFIC NAME	EXPOSURE**	NOTES
VINES			
Boston Ivy	Parthenocissus tricuspidata	E	Deciduous with fall color, clings to walls
Carolina Jessamine*	Gelsemium sempervirens	E	Evergreen foliage, fragrant yellow spring flowers; deer resistant
Confederate Jasmine	Trachelospermum jasminoides	E	Fragrant, white spring flowers and evergreen foliage
Coral Honeysuckle*	Lonicera sempervirens	S	Coral flower in summer; evergreen, hummingbirds like
Coralvine*	Antigonon leptopus	S	Pink clusters of flowers in late summer and fall, can be invasive
Crossvine*	Bignonia capreolata	Sh	Brick-red flower with yellow or coral throat, aggressive, high climber
English Ivy	Hedera helix	Sh	Dark evergreen foliage, shade loving
Fig Ivy	Ficus pumila	E	Clinging vine, growth needs to be controlled, susceptible to hard freezes
Improved Trumpet Vine*	Campis radicans 'Madame Galen'	E	Large orange flowers in summer and fall, can be invasive
Passion Vine*	Passiflora incarnata	E	Perennial with exotic looking flowers either purple lavender or red; fast growing
Lady Banksia	Rose banksia	S	Spring flowers in yellow or white
Virginia Creeper*	Parthenocissus quinquefolia	E	Clings to walls, fall color, deciduous
Wisteria*	Wisteria sp.	E	Texas and Chinese varieties available, blue clusters of flowers in spring
GROUNDCOVER			
Ajuga	Ajuga reptans	Sh	Variety of color foliage and blue flowers, requires well-drained soil
Asiatic Jasmine	Trachelospermum asiaticum	E	Dark evergreen foliage; variegated varieties also; prune to 4" height in February
Aztec grass	Ophiopogon intermedius	Sh	Variegated plant similar to liriope. Damaged foliage in winter, comes back out in spring.
Confederate Jasmine	Trachelospermum-jasminoides	E	Fragrant, white spring flowers and evergreen foliage
English Ivy	Hedera helix	Sh	Dark evergreen foliage; variegated varieties also
Leadwort Plumbago	Ceratostigma plumbaginoides	E	Blue flowers and green foliage with burgundy tinge; nice evergreen groundcover; 6 to 12 inches tall, 3-5 foot spread.
Liriope	Liriope muscari	E	Evergreen, grass-like foliage, purple blooms; varieties: standard, big blue and gigantic
Monkey Grass	Ophiopogon japonicum	E	Evergreen grass-like foliage, dwarf and standard varieties
Purple Heart	Setcreasea pallida	E	Purple leaves and flowers, not fully cold hardy.
Sedum*	Sedum sp.	E	Evergreen ground cover to 6 inches tall; excellent rock garden plant, yellow summer flowers
Vinca	Vinca major	Sh	Bluish purple flowers, green or variegated foliage; leaf roller caterpillars a problem

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